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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/597,610

06/09/2008

Eric Le Gall

1001-159

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25215 7590 09/14/2010
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EXAMINER

THOMPSON, CAMIE S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1786

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/14/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/597,610	Applicant(s) LE GALL ET AL.	
	Examiner Camie S. Thompson	Art Unit 1786	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 33-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 33-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 August 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/20/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 33-45, 47-49 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 33-45, 47-49 and 51 are rendered indefinite because the claims are dependent upon cancelled claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 32-37, 41-48 and 50-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by FR2356509 (hereinafter "the French reference").

The French reference discloses a sandwich structure comprising a core of plastic foam wherein on both sides of the core is a surface layer that can be a paper sheet, a fiber film or fabric of glass (see abstract). Additionally, the abstract of the French reference discloses that that thickness of the core is approximate 1 to 3 mm and the thickness of the surface layer(s) is 0.2 to 0.4 mm as required by present claims 32, 34-37, 41-45, and 47-48. The French reference also discloses that the core can comprise an epoxy foam resin with a density of 0.5 to 0.8 g/cm³ as per instant

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claims 32-33 and 46 (see entire document). The reference also discloses that one surface layer can be a paper sheet and the other surface layer can be a metallic sheet as per instant claim 41. The reference discloses that the sheets are impregnated, dried, superimposed and joined with the core under pressure and heating as per instant claims 50 and 51. The composite of the French reference comprises the same components as the present claims; therefore, it would be expected that the composite has a flexural modulus as measured by ASTM D790/ISO 178 from 200 mPa to 700 mPa.

5. Claims 33-34, 37, 40, 42-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sobolev, U.S. Patent Number 5,030,488

Sobolev discloses sandwich panels and laminates which comprise two metal sheets with a thermoset resin core sandwiched between the two metal sheets for structural uses (see abstracts and reference claim 1). Reference claim 7 discloses that the metal sheets are aluminum as per instant claims 1, 34, 37, 40 and 46. The reference claims disclose that the density of the foam core is less than about 1.25 g/cc as per instant claims 32, 33 and 46. The claims of the reference disclose that the thickness of the laminate is at least about 0.10 inch and each of the metal sheets have a thickness of 0.015 inch and about 0.1 inch. The examples of the reference disclose that the core is an epoxy resin.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Camie S. Thompson whose telephone number is 571-272-1530. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, D. Lawrence Tarazano can be reached on 571-272-1515. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. Lawrence Tarazano/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1786

/Camie S Thompson/
Examiner, Art Unit 1786